

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 113280
ORIGIN DHA-02

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-----172314Z 050117 /15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 113280

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SREF

SUBJECT:CABINDAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE

REF: (A) KINSHASA 4546; (B) STATE 108153

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES REF. A WHICH ANTICIPATES IN PART REQUEST FOR INFORMATION IN PARA. 1 REF. B. WOULD STILL APPRECIATE EMBASSY REPORTING ON ACTIVITY OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES(VOLAGS) IN SENDING FOOD AND MEDICINE TO TSHELA REGION, TOGETHER WITH EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT AID PROGRAMS IN AREA AND PROPORTION OF NEEDY REFUGEES SUBSISTING WITHOUT RELIEF.

2. PARA. 2 REF. A PROVIDES USEFUL, IF WORRISOME, INFORMATION ABOUT UNHCR THINKING ON RESETTLEMENT OF CABINDAN REFUGEES. HAVE SPECIFIC RESETTLEMENT SITES BEEN IDENTIFIED BY UNHCR AND APPROVED BY GOZ, OR IS LOCATION OF RESETTLEMENT SITES STILL TO BE DETERMINED? HOW PRACTICAL IS IT TO EXPECT THE MEN TO MOVE TO RESETTLEMENT SITES, LEAVING BEHIND FAMILIES? WHO WILL FEED THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND IN AREAS PRESUMABLY TOO CLOSE FOR UNHCR OPERATIONS.

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3. REQUEST ANSWER TO ABOVE QUESTIONS IN NEAR FUTURE, BUT

NEED AN IMMEDIATE ANSWER TO FOLLOWING QUESTION.

4. WHAT, IN EMBASSY'S VIEW, WOULD GOZ REACTION BE TO USG PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO VOLAGS SUCH AS IRC THROUGH UNHCR (SIMILAR TO QUESTION IN REF. B, PARA. 2). WE NEED ANSWER URGENTLY (BY COB 19 MAY) BECAUSE WE ARE MEETING WITH VOLAGS TO DISCUSS THEIR FUTURE OPERATIONS IN TSHELA AREA. DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S THOUGHTS ON FLEC AND LUANDA REACTION TO SUCH A COURSE.

5. IF EMBASSY DOES NOT PERCEIVE AN OBJECTION, WE INTEND TO INFORM VOLAGS THAT WE WOULD LIKE THEM TO CONTINUE TO HELP REFUGEES IN BORDER AREAS OF TSHELA WHERE THE VOLAGS ARE NOT IN COMPETITION WITH UNHCR. VOLAG ACTIVITY WOULD BE TEMPORARY, WHILE WE CONTINUE TO URGE THE UNHCR TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM. ASSISTANCE WOULD BE PROVIDED THROUGH

UNHCR AND LIMITED TO \$75,000. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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